

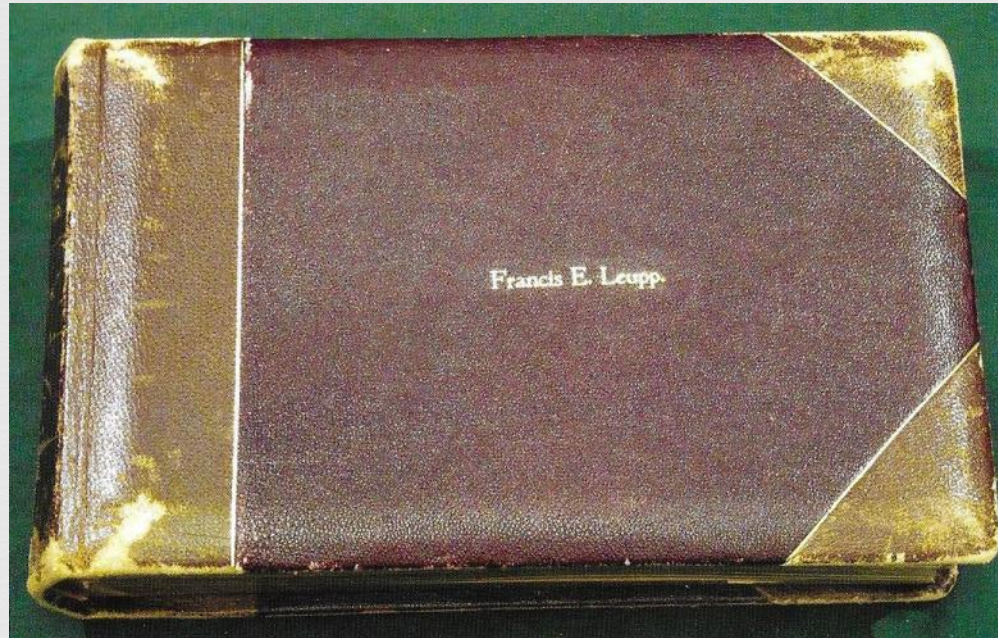
# The Roosevelt Album Die Proofs of 1903



A Short Talk  
By Don Getzin

Based mostly on the article by Mark A. Scheuer, RA 4289, entitled "The Small Die Proof Albums of 1903," *The Chronicle*, Nov. 2013, Vol. 65, No. 4, Whole No. 240, pp. 352-68

In 1903, Edwin C. Madden, the Third Assistant Postmaster General, along with “Major” James H. Reeve, the Chief of the Stamp Division under Madden, produced 85 of these albums for friends and influential acquaintances.



Teddy Roosevelt had nothing to do with these albums. He simply happened to be president in 1903. He did, however, receive a copy.

Each album consisted of 308 small die proofs of the U.S. and Cuba stamps issued up to that date. Included were official, periodical and postage due stamps.



*Scott 285P2-293P2*

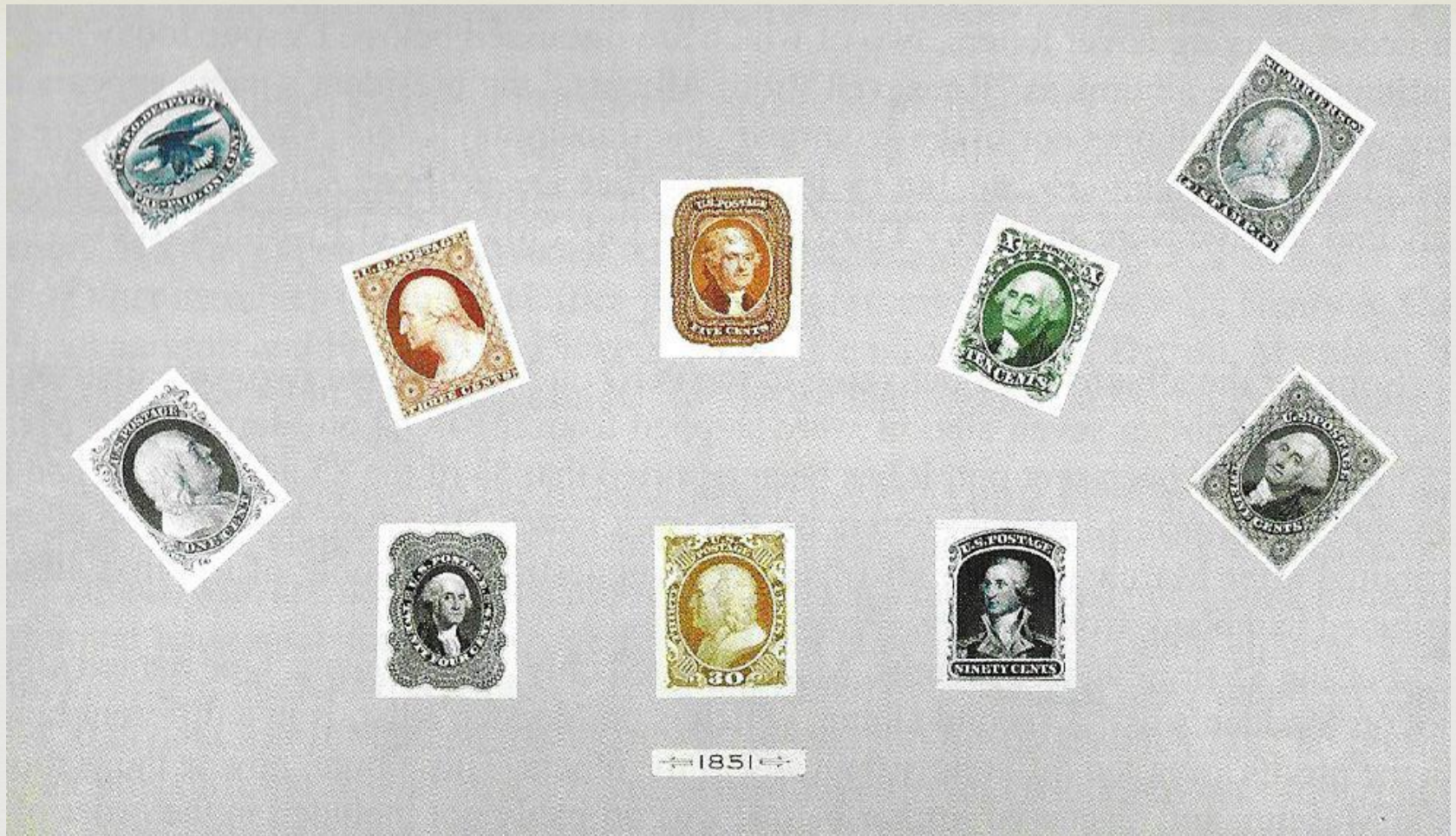
The proofs were mounted on grey cardboard pages, as shown above.

There are about 14 intact albums still in existence, and about 3-5 intact copies each of the individual pages. The remaining pages have been cut apart into singles, with about 45% still on card and 55% off card.



*Scott 326P2*

The Louisiana Purchase Exposition Issue was produced too late (1904) to be included, but die proofs on gray card are nevertheless known.



This is an intact page of the die proofs of the Issues of 1851 and 1857. The dies themselves were also used to produce the Continental Bank Note Company Special Printing of 1875.

## ROOSEVELT ALBUM DIE PROOFS

1903

Scott LO1P2 & LO2P2



Scott 40P2-47P2



These die proofs were part of 85 presentation albums prepared for friends and important Washington acquaintances by Edwin C. Madden, the Third Assistant Postmaster General under both Presidents William McKinley and Theodore Roosevelt. In spite of the name, Roosevelt had nothing to do with these die proofs. He was simply President at the time these albums were prepared and distributed by Madden.

Each presentation album included die proofs of 305 stamps of the United States and Cuba. They were originally affixed to gray card album pages using a water-insoluble adhesive. Some of the die proofs still exist on complete pages, others have been cut apart with the gray backing intact (as these have been), and the rest have been removed (often with damage) from the card.

Although *Scott 40P2-47P2* are catalogued as small die proofs of the 1875 Special Printings *Scott 40-47*, they are in fact die proofs of the original stamps of the imperforate Issue of 1851 and the perforated 15½ Issue of 1857.



*Scott #41P2*

# The End

Most scans are from Mark A. Scheuer's article. He in turn gives credit for some scans to Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries and Regency Superior Actions.